MENTAL DISEASE (vol. 29, May, 1902, p. 288), where in a discussion before the New York Neurological Society it was shown that only one in 221 nervous cases was of multiple sclerosis. Thus in Scotland and the north of England this disease appears to be three and one-half times as frequent as in America. JELLIFFE.

LE NEVRAXE

(Vol. 4, 1902, Fascicle 1.)

1. Researches on the Central Sensory Tracts. II. The Central Tract of the Nuclei of the Posterior Columns, or the Central Medullo-thalamic Tract. A. VAN GEHUCHTEN.
2. The Endocellular Reticulum of Golgi in the Cerebral Cortex. S. SOUKHANOFF.
3. The Posterior Root of the Eighth Cervical and First Dorsal Nerve. A. VAN GEHUCHTEN.
4. The Protoplasmic Prolongations of the Nerve Cells of the Spinal Cord of Higher Vertebrates. S. SOUKHANOFF and F. CZARNIECKI.
5. Lesion of Cauda Equina. Contribution to Study of Centers of Micturition, Defecation, Erection, Ejaculation and of the Anal Center. A. VAN GEHUCHTEN.

1. *The Central Tracts of the Posterior Column Nuclei.*—Van Gehuchten contributes an able and lengthy article on the subject of what becomes of the fibers having their origin in the nuclei of the columns of Goll and Burdach. He first brings out in a clear manner the divergent views of Forel, v. Monakow, Bechterew, and others with reference to the origin and destination of the fibers that make up the lemniscus, both median and lateral. His own researches were on rabbits in whom the nuclei cuneatus and gracilis were destroyed by puncture and scission and he shows among other things: (1) That there are no uninterrupted crossed fibers that go from the nuclei of the posterior columns to the cerebral cortex (in opposition to Tschermak); (2) the fibers that have their origin in the nuclei of the posterior columns terminate for the most part at least, in the lateral nucleus of the optic thalamus of the opposite side, thus constituting an *ascending medullary thalamic* tract; (3) this ascending medullary thalamic tract is exclusively crossed; (4) the fibers of this central tract that originate in the nucleus gracilis appear before those coming from the nucleus cuneatus. The former make up the greater part of the preolivary nucleus; the others the median part, all of the interolivary nuclei and the intra and periolivary fibers. In the median lemniscus it is difficult to separate the fibers from the nucleus gracilis and the nucleus cuneatus. The former seem to preponderate in the external portions of this part of the lemniscus, the others in the internal part; (5) the method of Marchi does not permit of the precise determination of all of the connections of the ascending fibers with the nuclei of the bulb, the pons, or the mesencephalon. All that can be asserted is that during its course the medullo-thalamic tract sends a portion of its fibers to the corpora quadrigemina. Whether they go to the inferior corpus, as claimed by Bruce, Wallenberg and Rothmann, or to the superior corpus, according to Ferrier and Turner, he does not determine.

2. *The Endocellular Reticulum in the Cortex.*—Rabbit's brain is prepared in Veratti's fluid; see original for technic, which is complicated. The network is found to be perinuclear. It does not reach the periphery of the cell. Its general arrangement is that of the cell outline, and the author believes it to be interpreted on some such structural basis as that described by Holmgren and Retzius as "intercellular canals or pores." Butschli's "foam structure" may account for some of the picture.

3. *Posterior Root of the Eighth Cervical and the First Dorsal Nerve.*—

This is another contribution by Van Gehuchten to the study of the central termination in the nuclei of the posterior columns of the peripheral sensory nerves. The study of the degenerated tracts up to the nuclei show that they occupy a position slightly anterior and just external to the column of Goll.

4. *Prolongations of Nerve Cells in Cord of Higher Vertebrates.*—The Golgi methods show in adult rabbit cords three types of cells: (1) Bipolar cells with two dendrites at one pole and one from the opposite pole. Irregular varicosities are typical of both dendrites. Gemmules are also present at long intervals and are few in number. (2) Fusiform cells with many dendrites which are literally covered by gemmules. (3) Cells with four dendrites, occupying the white matter. These are extremely irregular in general contour.

In the anterior horns the dendrites fall into three general classes. (1) Some are of uniform caliber; (2) others, more numerous, have moniliform swellings, and (3) moniliform dendrites. The nerve cells of the cord differ markedly in the matter of prolongations from those in the cortex. They are more often varicosely swollen. The gemmules are fewer and vary more widely in shape and size. The authors describe in the cord a unique type of offshoots intermediate between the gemmules and protoplasmic processes.

5. *Lesion of the Cauda Equina.*—(Continued article.) JELLIFFE.

IL MANICOMIO

(Vol. 18, 1902, No. 1.)

1. Some Notes on Pathological Anatomy in the Insane.—G. ANGIOLELLA.
2. The Basic Unity of Psychopathic Processes.—F. DEL GRECO.
3. Oscillations of the Metabolic Processes in the Epileptic.—N. ALESSI AND A. PIERRI.

1. *The Pathological Anatomy of the Insane.*—The most prevalent lesion of the brain, corresponding to the frequency of general paralysis, is chronic fibrous leptomeningitis, associated with periencephalitis, the latter being characteristic of general paralysis of the insane. In 450 autopsies, this lesion was found in 108, namely in 94 men and 16 women. Among the various other lesions associated with the leptomeningitis, the author found meningeal hemorrhage, edema of the brain, softening of certain portions of same, also endarteritis deformans, insufficiency of the aorta, a large proportion of chronic nephritis, and most of all, omitting many other affections, lobular bronchopneumonia, namely, 46 cases. The author calls special attention not only to the multiplicity of the associated lesions, but also to the variety of their combinations, the former circumstance going to prove the author's contention that paralysis of the insane is a general disease, affecting not only the nervous system, but the whole organism through the vascular apparatus, which latter, surcharged with "toxic" blood, undergoes changes such as chronic inflammation; this in its turn causing alterations in various organs, and parenchymas of same; these therefore suffer in their nutrition, degenerate, become inflamed or undergo necrosis. As regards the variety of lesions it may possibly be explained by a particular susceptibility of certain organs in some individuals to alterations produced in the blood of the patients.

It is worthy of note that only in one case were there encountered syphilitic lesions, namely gummatous cicatrices of the liver; it must, however, be stated that in general it is rather difficult to discover at the autopsies of paralytics clear and indubitable traces of syphilis. For those cases in which the etiological factor of syphilis, alcohol or other poisons can be excluded, the author finds the causation of the affection in overwork, exhaustion (what the Frenchmen very appropriately designate as